FORM 3

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

| OMB APPROVAL | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| OMB Number: | MB Number: 3235-0104 | | | | | | |
| Estimated average burden | | | | | | | |
| hours per response | : 0.5 | | | | | | |

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| NEIL STEVEN M | 2. Date of Event Requiring Stater Month/Day/Yea 01/26/2005 | ment | 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol COOPER COMPANIES INC [COO] | | | | | | | |
|--|---|--------------------|--|---|------------------------------------|---|---|--|--|--|
| (Last) (First) (Middle) THE COOPER COMPANIES, INC. | | | 4. Relationship of Reporting Perso (Check all applicable) Director | n(s) to Issue | (Mo | If Amendment, Date of Original Filed onth/Day/Year) | | | | |
| 6140 STONERIDGE MALL ROAD | | | X Officer (give title below) | Other (spe- below) | / [0.1 | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) | | | | |
| (Street) PLEASANTON CA 94588 (City) (State) (Zip) | _ | | CFO | | | X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | | | |
| Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 4) | | | Amount of Securities eneficially Owned (Instr. 4) | 3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) | | 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) | | | | |
| Common Stock | | | 1,000 | D | | | | | | |
| Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4) | 2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | 3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4) | | 4. Conversion or Exercise | e Form: | 6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) | | | |
| | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | Price of Derivative Security | Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) | | | | |
| Stock Options (Right to buy) | (1) | 01/24/2015 | Common Stock | 30,000 | 73.4 | D | | | | |

Explanation of Responses:

1. The option vests if the Company's stock price achieves certain targets within specified timeframes as follows: one-fourth shall vest if Fair Market Value of the Company's stock achieves \$82.21, but not earlier than 7/26/07; one-fourth shall vest if Fair Market Value of the Company's stock achieves \$88.08, but not earlier than 7/26/07; one-fourth shall vest if the Fair Market Value of the Company's stock achieves \$95.42, but not earlier than 7/28/08; and one-fourth shall vest if the Fair Market Value of the Company's stock achieves \$102.76, but not earlier than 7/27/09. All options not otherwise vesting pursuant to the above timetable shall become exercisable on January 24, 2010.

Carol R. Kaufman, Wendy L. Stark or Sharyl L. Proscia

01/27/2005

** Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5 (b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.